



Fact: 77% of projected job openings in Maryland will require some type of post-high school training or education.

The goal of Skills2Compete is to encourage Marylanders to obtain post-high school job skills to better compete in the workforce.

Why should you pursue skills training?

With high unemployment, a competitive job market, and new and emerging technologies, many employers are requiring new skills to succeed. This is precisely the time to ensure that you receive the training needed to move into middle- and high-skills jobs that will come with economic recovery. Reports show *the majority of these jobs will require some sort of post-high school education, certification, credential, or degree.*

Is now a good time to get training?

Even in this slow economy, some employers are reporting they cannot find the workers *with the skills and credentials* needed for the job. This is especially true for middle skill jobs -- jobs in the middle of the skilled labor market which require some training beyond high school, but not a four-year degree. Middle-skill jobs make up the largest part of Maryland's labor market.

People with more education and training tend to earn more and are less likely to be unemployed. In May 2010, the national unemployment rate for people with a high school diploma was 10.9 percent. For people with Associate's degrees, the unemployment rate was 8.3 percent. For people with Bachelor's degrees, the unemployment rate was 4.7 percent.

In 2008, the median salary for Marylanders with high school diplomas was \$32,867. People with some college or an associate's degree earned a median income of \$41,484 per year.

To *learn more*, visit the Maryland Skills2Compete Website:

<http://www.skills.maryland.gov>